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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1648

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 10/050,898; Filed: January 18, 2002
For: **Molecular Antigen Array**
Inventors: Renner *et al.*
Our Ref: 1700.0190005/BJD/SJE

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to the Requirement for Restriction and Election of Species; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

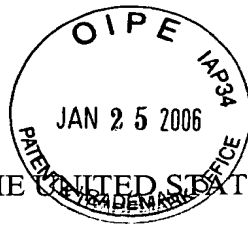
Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Simon J. Elliott, Ph.D.
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Registration No. 54,083

BJD/SJE/lam
Enclosures

485661.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Renner *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/050,898

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: **Molecular Antigen Array**

Confirmation No.: 7794

Art Unit: 1648

Examiner: Salvoza, M. Franco G.

Atty. Docket: 1700.0190005/BJD/SJE

Reply to the Requirement for Restriction and Election of Species

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated December 30, 2005, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group II, containing claims 1-17, 23-50 and 52. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

Within the claims of Group II, Applicants elect the following species for initial search and examination:

in claim 23, Applicants elect recombinant proteins of RNA-phages as defined in 23(l);

in claim 25, Applicants elect bacteriophage Q β as defined in 25(a);

in claim 35, Applicants elect the amino acid linkers GGC or GGC-NH₂, as defined in 35(i) and 35(k), respectively;

in claim 37, Applicants elect the heterobifunctional cross-linker SMPH as defined in claim 37(a);

in claim 38, Applicants elect the amino acid sequence of DAEFRHDSGYEVHHQGGC (SEQ ID NO: 367) as defined in 38(a);

in claim 48, Applicants elect the amino acid linkers GGC or GGC-NH₂, as defined in 48(i) and 48(k), respectively; and

in claim 49, Applicants elect the amino acid linkers GGC or GGC-NH₂, as defined in 49(d) and 49(e), respectively.

Upon the identification of otherwise allowable subject matter in generic or linking claims, the Examiner is requested to examine the remaining unelected species in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.141(a).

This election of restriction groups is made **with traverse**. The inventions of Groups II and VI are classified in the same class, as are the inventions of Groups I, III, IV, V and VII, and with Groups I, III and V in the same class and subclass. Therefore a search for art relevant to the examination of a group in one class should find art relevant to the examination of the remaining groups in the same class. Therefore, claims II and VI should be rejoined. Similarly, Groups I, III, IV, V and VII should also be rejoined or, if not, at least Groups I, III and V. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Requirement for Restriction and Election of Species, and consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

It is believed that extensions of time are not required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Simon J. Elliott, Ph.D.

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